

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for polishing a row bar including a plurality of magnetic head sliders, said apparatus comprising:

a rotatable lapping surface plate;
a movable housing above said lapping surface plate;

a jig secured to said housing and comprising a rigid member having a plurality of holes and an elastic member fixed to said rigid member for holding a row bar;

first pressing means for applying a pressure to the whole row bar; and

second pressing means for individually pressing portions of the elastic member corresponding to a plurality of magnetic head sliders of the row bar through said holes of the rigid member.

2. A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said housing reciprocally moves in the radial direction of the lapping surface plate.

3. A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the elastic member of said jig is adhered to the rigid member.

4. A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said jig is secured to said housing by screws.

5. A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising control means for controlling said second pressing means depending upon a change in the resistance of the resistance elements provided in said row bar.

6. A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said second pressing means comprises pins inserted in the holes of said rigid member and drive mechanisms for driving said pins.

7. A polishing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said drive mechanism includes an air cylinder and a transmission mechanism for transmitting the action of

the air cylinder to the pin.

8. A polishing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said second pressing means comprises compressed air feeding means for introducing the compressed air into the holes of said rigid member.

9. A polishing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said compressed air feeding means comprises a conduit connected to a source of compressed air and a control valve arranged in said conduit.

10. A polishing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said housing has a plurality of holes in alignment with a plurality of holes of said rigid member, said holes of said housing being communicated with said holes of said rigid member.

11. A polishing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said conduit is connected to each hole of said housing.

12. A method of polishing a row bar including a plurality of magnetic head sliders, said method comprising the steps of:

- securing a jig to a movable housing, said jig including a rigid member having a plurality of holes and an elastic member fixed to said rigid member;

- holding a row bar by said jig;

- moving said housing above a lapping surface plate;

- turning said lapping surface plate to polish said row bar while pressing the row bar onto said lapping surface plate;

- measuring a change in the resistance of resistance elements provided in the row bar; and

- individually pressing portions of the elastic member corresponding to a plurality of magnetic head sliders of the row bar through said holes of said rigid member in response to a change in the resistance of the resistance elements provided in said row bar.

13. A method of polishing a row bar according to

claim 12, wherein resistance elements provided in the row bar are connected to a relay board, and a change in the resistance of the resistance elements provided in the row bar is measured on the relay board.

14. A method of polishing a row bar according to claim 13, wherein the resistance elements provided in the row bar are connected to the relay board through bonding wires.

15. A method of polishing a row bar according to claim 14, wherein the bonding wires are bonded while holding the row bar between the jig and a holding plate.

16. A method of polishing a row bar according to claim 12, wherein the portions of the elastic member are pressed by pins inserted in the holes of said rigid member.

17. A method of polishing a row bar according to claim 12, wherein the portions of the elastic members are pressed by compressed air introduced into the holes of said rigid member.